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ABSTRACT

Law-related education (LRE) seeks to foster the knowledge, skills, and values that are needed to function effectively in a democratic society. LRE uses active, engaging learning strategies to teach students how to think critically and analytically, communicate effectively, and problem solve. Since its inception, LRE has enjoyed the support of state and local bar associations. In 1998, the American Bar Association (ABA) Division for Public Education surveyed state LRE projects that are part of Youth for Justice, a national program of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Of the 46 state LRE projects that responded to the survey, 48% were either part of the state bar or had a close institutional relationship to it; while 38% had some relationship with the state bar. This bulletin examines how state bar associations are involved in LRE and cite examples of state-bar-sponsored programs and resources. The bulletin provides only a general overview of state bar activities. The activities described in the bulletin are a sample of how state bar associations are involved in LRE. (BT)

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Bulletin NO. 20

American Bar Association ABA Division for Public Education

State Bar Involvement in Law-Related Education

by Jennifer D. Kittlaus

Law-Related Education (LRE) seeks to foster the knowledge, skills, and values that are needed to function effectively in our democratic society.[1] LRE uses active, engaging learning strategies to teach learners how to think critically and analytically, communicate effectively, and problem solve. An important element in LRE is using resource persons, such as lawyers, judges, school resource officers, and law enforcement personnel, to expose students to differing opinions and help them make connections between theoretical and real-life situations.

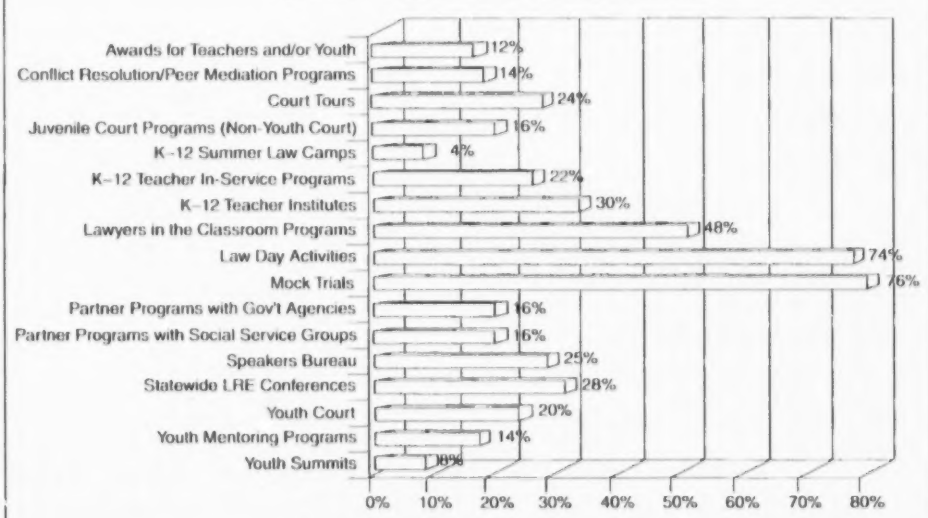
Since its inception, LRE has enjoyed the ongoing support of state and local bar associations. In 1998, the American Bar Association (ABA) Division for Public Education surveyed state LRE projects that are part of Youth for Justice, a national program of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Of the 46 state LRE projects that responded to the survey, 48 percent of the projects were either part of the state bar (e.g., housed in the state bar or funded entirely by the state bar) or had a close institutional relationship to it (e.g., functioned as the community outreach partner of the state bar). Thirty-eight percent had some relationship (e.g., received some funding from the state bar or collaborated on several projects) with the state bar. Only 14 percent reported not having any relationship with a state bar association.[2]

In this publication, we will examine how state bar associations are involved in LRE and cite examples of state bar-sponsored programs and resources. Please note that this publication attempts merely to provide a general overview of state bar activities. The activities described in this publication are only a sampling of the ways in which state bar associations are involved in LRE.[3] For more thorough information about an individual state bar's involvement, please contact the state bar association directly. Information on how to locate contact information for state bar associations is provided at the end of this publication.

Overview

During 2001–2002, the ABA Division for Public Education surveyed state bar associations to learn more about their LRE

Figure 1: LRE Programs Offered by State Bar Associations



Data collected through a 2001 survey of state bar associations and through independent research of state bar Web sites.

Jennifer Kittlaus is a program manager and editor for the American Bar Association Division for Public Education.

efforts. State bars were asked to detail the youth-oriented programs and products that they had offered between 2000 and 2002. Twenty-nine state bars responded. Data was also gathered from state bar associations' Web sites and newsletters. This publication provides a summary of program activities and products, as well as an analysis of how LRE activities are organized within state bar associations.

Program Activities

All fifty states have some type of involvement in law-related education at the state bar level. Figure 1 shows the most common law-related education programs offered by state bar associations. Mock trial programs were the most popular, with reported participation of roughly 76 percent of bar associations. Law Day activities were the second most popular, with 74 percent. Lawyer in the Classroom programs were the third most-reported activity (48 percent), followed by K–12 teacher institutes (30 percent), statewide LRE conferences (28 percent), speakers bureaus (25 percent), court tours (24 percent), K–12 teacher in-service programs (22 percent), and youth court (20 percent).

Mock Trials

Mock trials engage students in the exploration of civil and criminal issues as they assume lawyer and witness roles in mock cases.

The Georgia Mock Trial Competition is the largest program of the State Bar of Georgia, in terms of numbers of persons affected. In 2001, over 1,500 students participated in the competition, which is led and coached by classroom teachers and local attorneys. Recent issues tackled include drug trafficking, sexual harassment, DUI, and freedom of speech in school settings.

In 2002, the Delaware State Bar Association's Community Service Committee worked in partnership with the Delaware Law-Related Education Center, Inc. to recruit lawyers and judges to serve as jurors, judges, and coaches in the state's mock trial competition. The state bar hosted a special training session for volunteers interested in serving as mock trial coaches to high school teams.

The State Bar of Georgia, in conjunction with the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education and nationally-recognized LRE educator Marlene Melvin, produced two mock trial resource videos. The first provides LRE classes and mock trial teams with the basics of mock trial preparation; the second looks at the positive effect that mock trials have had on parents, teachers, students, and team coaches.

The Illinois State Bar Association's Committee on Law-Related Education for the Public offers mock trials as well as mock trial teacher-training materials that were developed in association with the Young Lawyers Division and the Illinois Law-Related Education and Resource Network.

In 2002, the Minnesota State Bar Association and Minnesota Law-Related Education, Inc. hosted over 300 students at the National High School Mock Trial Championship,[4] an annual tournament that brings together the top teams from around the country for an intense two-day competition that results in the awarding of first- and second-place honors. The 2002 championship involved forty-four teams from across the United States, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. First place went to the Family Christian Academy Homeschoolers from Chattanooga, Tenn., and second to Quigley Catholic High School in Baden, Pa. The championship is governed by a national executive board that consists of representatives from states the have hosted or plan to host the tournament. The site of the championship moves from year to year to prevent the financial burden of hosting the championship from resting on one state.

Law Day Activities

A 1961 joint resolution of Congress officially established May 1 as Law Day, a national day of celebration of our heritage of liberty under law. Every year, the ABA is joined by national organizations, state and local bars, businesses, and schools in conducting thousands of programs on the rule of law in a constitutional democracy. Descriptions and listings of national and international Law Day programs are available on the ABA's Law Day Web site, www.lawday.org.

The Alabama State Bar sponsors Law Day essay, poster, and photography contests. In 2002, K–6 students participated in the poster contest, and 7th–12th graders participated in the

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essay contest and the photography contest. The poster and essay contests were each broken into two age classifications so that students of similar ages competed against one another. Winners in all three contests were awarded U.S. savings bonds and medals, and all of the winning entries were displayed.

In 2002, the Alaska Bar Association and Alaska Court System coordinated Law Day events in schools across the state. Law Day lesson plans and outreach recommendations were created for volunteers. In addition, a number of school principals, curriculum advisors, and social studies department chairs were contacted beforehand and encouraged to set aside time for Law Day activities.

In celebration of Law Day, the Maine State Bar Association's Lawyers with Class program matches lawyers and judges with classrooms of 5th–12th graders. The volunteer lawyers and judges typically lecture on the ABA-selected Law Day theme for that year. In other cases, the volunteer lawyer or judge will tailor the lecture to discuss topics currently being studied by the students.

The Louisiana State Bar Association's Center for Law and Civic Education hosts the Law Day Summit, a day-long program for students in grades 7–12. With the help of lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers, students explore the legal system and discuss legal cases and issues that directly impact students' lives.

For over thirty years, the State Bar of Michigan has sponsored a Law Day essay contest for 6th–8th graders in public, private, charter, or home schools. First-, second-, and third-place winners are selected from each grade and awarded a U.S. savings bond and a proclamation from the governor. In addition, the winners and their parents, teacher, and principal are invited to a special Law Day luncheon, at which students have the chance to read their winning essays. Following the luncheon, the student winners are given a VIP tour of the state capitol.

For Law Day 2002, the Vermont Bar Association's Public Education Committee organized a statewide program that placed volunteer lawyers in elementary, middle, and high school classrooms to discuss legal careers and law and democracy, among other topics.

The Virginia State Bar's Litigation Section sponsors the Law in Society Award Competition, an essay contest for high school seniors. Essays are judged according to how well they demonstrate how the legal system affects the day-to-day lives of citizens. Ten winning essays are selected, and winners are each awarded a U.S. savings bond, a two-volume dictionary and thesaurus set, and a plaque. The awards are presented through local bar associations, beginning on Law Day.

Lawyers in the Classroom

Lawyers in the Classroom programs take lawyers out of the courtroom and place them in the classroom, giving students the opportunity to learn about the law from actual practitioners. State bar associations help prepare lawyers to go into the classroom by offering instructional tips and developing age-appropriate presentations and lesson plans. State bar associations often initiate relationships with school districts, agreeing to recruit and pair volunteer lawyers with classrooms.

The Idaho State Bar Association's LRE Program serves as a liaison between elementary and secondary schools and volunteer lawyers and judges. The state bar helps plan and coordinate topical presentations, classroom activities, court or law firm visits, mock trials, and other programs.

The Indiana State Bar Association takes part in the Indiana Kids' Election, a statewide mock election for K–12 students that takes place every two years, mirroring the general election schedule. The mock election is designed to prime students for when they become of legal voting age, and therefore follows similar procedures. For example, students must register to vote in their schools by the date that adults are required to do so. In the 2000 mock election, over 650,000 students registered to vote. The Indiana State Bar assists with the program by pairing volunteer attorneys with classrooms from around the state to discuss the importance of voting. The state bar also provides complimentary resource guides.

The Oregon State Bar's New Lawyers Division connects lawyers with high school classrooms to encourage and increase students' understanding of the legal system, participation in our democratic society, and awareness of their rights and responsibilities under the Constitution. Throughout the school year, volunteer lawyers can be found conducting mock trials, debates, and field trips with students.

The Kansas Bar Association, with funding by the Kansas Bar Foundation, coordinates the U.S. Supreme Court in Review program that was originated and developed by the Kansas Court of Appeals. The program involves volunteer attorneys and judges who re-enact recent U.S. Supreme Court cases for schools, with the help of audience participants. The performances are made available to other groups through live satellite broadcasting, the Internet, and interactive television.

In the fall of 2002, the Massachusetts Bar Association launched Conversations on Law & Liberty in Times of Crisis, a program developed by the ABA Division for Public Education to encourage public discussion of the complex legal and civic issues facing our nation in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attack.[5] The Massachusetts Bar anticipated recruiting and placing over 100 volunteer attorneys in high school classrooms around the state during the 2002–2003 school year.

The State Bar of South Dakota's Young Lawyers Section conducts Citizenship in Our Schools, a program that pairs volunteer young lawyers with classrooms to discuss rights and

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responsibilities, law as a career, juvenile court, sexual harassment, tolerance, drunk driving, and other issues of importance to students. Videos supplement a number of the presentations.

Statewide Conferences, Workshops, and Institutes

Professional development activities benefit LRE teachers and trainers in a variety of ways, including exposing them to the newest resources, programs, and teaching strategies in the field; helping them implement LRE best practices; expanding their substantive content knowledge; and providing valuable networking opportunities.

The Missouri Bar offers law-related education workshops on a variety of subjects, including the Constitution, Supreme Court, religion and public schools, juvenile law, civil law, conflict resolution, and rights and responsibilities.

The Ohio State Bar Association sponsors the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE), which holds an annual Law and Citizenship Conference. OCLRE also conducts a law camp for 4th–6th graders. Students learn about the legal system and how it affects them, participate in mock trials and debates, and play group cooperation games. The OCLRE law academy for 7th–9th graders gives students a close-up look at Ohio government, as students participate in interactive activities in real government buildings. Students are also given the opportunity to interact with actual county and state government and law enforcement officials.

The Oklahoma Bar Association sponsors Programs Advancing Citizenship Education, a one-week free summer institute offered for Oklahoma elementary and secondary teachers. The state bar also offers complimentary teacher in-service programs on teaching students how to be better decision makers.

The State Bar of Texas hosts an annual statewide LRE conference for K–12 teachers, administrators, curriculum specialists, juvenile justice personnel, and community resource persons from law enforcement agencies. They also sponsor a variety of teacher institutes and in-service programs that focus on topics such as law and humanities and the Texas court system.

Speakers Bureaus

Across the country, thousands of attorneys volunteer their time as guest speakers in school, business, and community settings. Many state bar association speakers bureaus are comprised of lawyers that practice in different settings and areas of the law, making them able to fill topic requests ranging from what it means to be a lawyer to alternative dispute resolution, for example.

The Florida Bar created a speakers bureau to serve schools, community groups, and organizations. Volunteer attorneys are prepared to speak on a variety of topics, including the role of lawyers in society, the Constitution and the significance of its revision, and threats to the American justice system. In several areas of the state, the Florida Bar works cooperatively with the local bar associations' speakers bureaus to fill requests.

The Maryland State Bar Association's speakers bureau involves over 150 volunteer lawyers from across the state who are willing to provide schools and community groups with a general legal perspective on a number of topics. The bar association helps coordinate the project further by helping groups determine their needs, locating an appropriate speaker, and scheduling the event.

The State Bar of Nevada's speakers bureau matches volunteer lawyers with schools, community groups, and civic organizations. To aid groups in selecting a topic, the bar association produced lists of suggested topics for school and community settings. Examples of school topics are law as a career, the Bill of Rights, the Constitution, the courts, the jury system, and what students should know about the law when they turn 18.

Court Tours

What better way for students to understand how the courts work than by allowing them to see the courts in action and observe firsthand the judges, lawyers, and other court personnel that work there?

The Connecticut Bar Association works in partnership with the Connecticut Consortium for Law and Citizenship Education, the Connecticut Judicial Branch, Connecticut Judges Association, and Connecticut Department of Education to coordinate the Connecticut Court Visitation Program, which offers attorney-guided court tours for students in grades 7–12. During tours, students have the opportunity to observe an arraignment, visit the jail where persons are held prior to their hearings, and, in some instances, attend a trial. Since the early 1980s, the program has served over 57,000 students.

Peer Mediation and Conflict Resolution

Peer mediation and conflict resolution programs appear to be on the rise, as more and more schools have decided to take a proactive approach to addressing concerns of school violence.

The Hawaii State Bar Association's Mediator-Mentor Program teams up volunteer attorneys and community mediators with student mediators to assists parents, students, and administrators with dispute mediation.

The Kentucky Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section sponsors a peer mediation program in local schools.

The Louisiana State Bar Association-sponsored Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education, in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General, conducts Teen Camp on Violence Prevention through Peer Mediation, an award-winning program that teaches students peaceful problem-solving skills and helps them implement a peer mediation program at their own schools.

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The Pennsylvania Bar Association and Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office co-sponsor Project PEACE (Peaceful Endings through Attorneys, Children, and Educators), a program designed to teach elementary students how to resolve disagreements through mediation. An annual training conference equips 12 elementary schools with the tools to write and implement their own mediation plans. Pennsylvania is the second U.S. state to offer Project PEACE.

Products

Figure 2 provides a look at the most common products available from state bar associations. Web materials for K–12 teachers topped the list with 42 percent of bar associations offering them. Pamphlets for K–12 youth were the second most offered product at 40 percent. These are generally practical law pamphlets and, specifically, rights and responsibilities pamphlets aimed at 18-year-olds. Web materials for K–12 youth followed with 34 percent. Other top products included law-related education curricular materials (24 percent) and videos (22 percent).

Web Materials

The Internet has transformed the way most of us do business, and teachers are no exception. Many teachers use the Internet to find classroom lessons and resources, and increasingly teachers are using it to enhance their classroom teaching. In addition, more and more students are looking to the Internet for primary documents and other research material. State bar associations have responded to these trends by designating sections on their Web sites for teachers and students offering lesson plans, mock trials, articles, resource guides, research links, and other materials.

The Arizona Bar Foundation for Legal Services and Education created the LawForKids.org Web site, which is supported financially by the Arizona Supreme Court and is billed as the first stand-alone Web site in the country that is dedicated to teaching youth about the law. The site includes practical law information, educational first-person narratives from young people who have experienced the law firsthand, links to primary documents and research sites, and youth advocacy resources.

The Massachusetts Bar Association's Web site provides information about the federal court system, state court system, juvenile courts, civil and criminal cases, and the trial process.

The Missouri Bar's Web site includes an assortment of lesson plans for educators on topics such as the electoral college, constitutional issues and how they pertain to teens, cloning, ethics, and jury selection. The site also includes an extensive section of Web links tailored for conducting legal research.

The New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Web site has a special section designed for students titled "Students' Corner." The section includes both of the foundation's student newsletters, "The Legal Eagle" and "Respect," as well as K–12 mock trial resources, conflict resolution and peer mediation information, and educational resources and links.

The New York State Bar Association's Web site offers "The Courts of New York," an 88-page guide to the court system and its procedures. The guide also contains special sections on judicial independence and the role of lawyers in the justice system, as well as a glossary of legal terms.

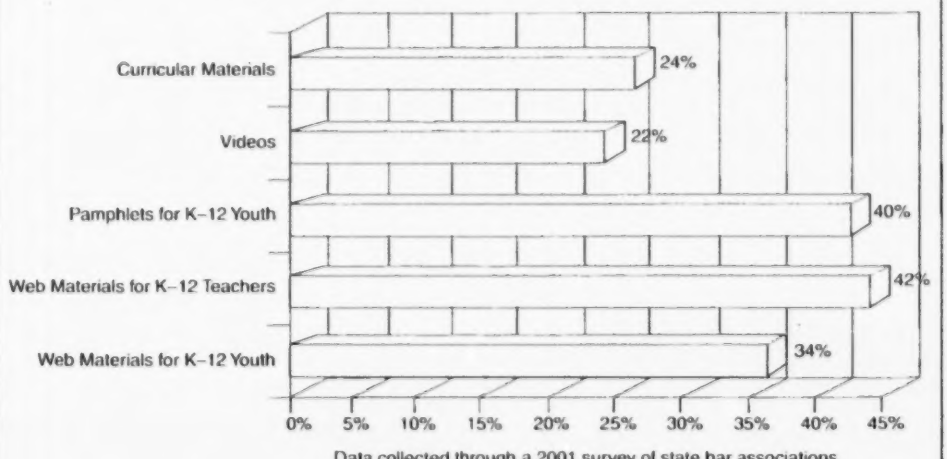
Booklets and Pamphlets

These short publications continue to be one of the most economical and effective ways to deliver important legal information to large audiences.

The State Bar of California recently updated and reprinted "Kids and the Law: An A–Z Guide for Parents," which is designed to help parents talk to their children about the legal system and the laws that affect them. "When You Become 18: A Survival Guide for Teenagers" uses a question-answer format to discuss laws and legal rights that apply to persons 18 and older. Topics addressed include consumer protection, credit, employment, housing, jury duty, and voting.

The Illinois State Bar Association's Standing Committee on Law-Related Education for the Public produced "Understanding the Illinois Constitution," a booklet designed for

Figure 2: LRE Products Offered by State Bar Associations



Data collected through a 2001 survey of state bar associations and through independent research of state bar Web sites.

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junior high and high school students, who have constitutional education requirements. The committee's "Becoming an Adult" booklet outlines and explains the rights and responsibilities that come with turning 18.

The Kansas Bar Association offers two rights and responsibilities books aimed at young people. "On Your Own" discusses legal issues that face young people as they make the transition from school to the work force. "For the Record" is designed to educate middle school students about the rights and responsibilities that are theirs under Kansas law.

The Mississippi Bar's Young Lawyers Division developed a "Consequences of Misconduct in School" brochure that details the types of behaviors that are considered misconduct, their consequences, and an overview of youth court procedure. The brochure has been distributed to many 5th–12th grade students with the hope that the information will help prevent incidences of school misconduct. The division also developed a "DUI . . . Consequences" student booklet that outlines the consequences of a DUI arrest, including the initial arrest and booking, punishments for minors and adults, the license reinstatement procedure, and long-term consequences of DUI offenses, including a list of careers closed to convicted felons.

The Nebraska State Bar Foundation provides high school seniors statewide with a complimentary copy of its "Age of Majority" booklet.

The State Bar Association of North Dakota produces a "Graduating into an Adult World" booklet for high school seniors.

The South Carolina Bar's Law-Related Education Division offers coloring books for children in grades K–6 and a "So You Want to Be a Lawyer" career flyer for grades 7–12.

Videos

Always a hit in classrooms, videos provide a visually stimulating way to deliver important content material.

The Arkansas Bar Association distributes the award-winning "He Loves Me Not," a video on teenage dating violence.

The South Carolina Bar's Law-Related Education Division offers "Summoning the Dream . . . Pillars Against Prejudice," an educational video packet that highlights the role of South Carolina lawyers during the Civil Rights Movement. The packet includes the video and a teacher's guide, which has background materials and lesson plans.

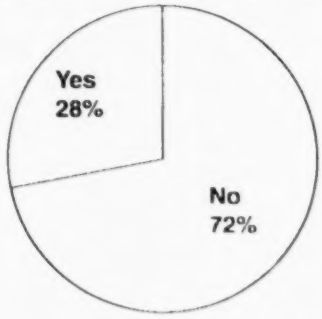
Curricular Materials

State bar associations across the country offer a wide variety of content-rich resource materials, including lesson plans, activity guides, mock trial scripts and scenarios, and even textbooks.

The Idaho Law Foundation, Inc. offers nearly 300 lessons for elementary, middle, and secondary school students on topics such as voting, city government, terrorism, privacy, mediation, corrective justice, and the Supreme Court.

The Colorado Bar Association produced *Law in Colorado* as an addendum to the *Street Law* practical law curriculum. *Law in Colorado* explores Colorado law, including specific case law.

Figure 3: Does Your State Bar Association Regularly Distribute a Newsletter Oriented to the Public (Mailed to Non-Bar Association Members)?



Data collected through a 2001 survey of state bar associations and through independent research of state bar Web sites.

Outreach

Figure 3 shows that 28 percent of state bar associations regularly distribute a newsletter to members of the public. This includes both paper newsletters that are mailed and electronic newsletters that are sent through e-mail. Our research suggests that many of the bars that have distributed paper newsletters in the past have either replaced or are currently considering replacing them with electronic versions. It is important to note, however, that while many bars do not have formal newsletters for non-association members, they do make use of their Web sites to announce programs and products.

Newsletters that are currently being distributed include "Law Wise," a publication of the Kansas Bar Association and Kansas Supreme Court that is sent to over 1,600 educators, six times per school year. The newsletter, which is also available online, offers information on legal topics, technology help, and lessons plans.

The Internet offers other ways of conducting outreach. For example, the South Carolina Bar's Law-Related Education Division sponsors a list serve for teachers, school resource officers, and other professionals that work with young people.

Television is another avenue for reaching the public. The Louisiana State Bar Association's Center for Law and Civic Education developed a biweekly television program, "For the People . . . By the People," that promotes the law-related and

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civic education efforts of students, educators, and community organizations.

In partnership with a local television network affiliate, the Washington State Bar produces "Legally Speaking," a short legal education segment that airs twice a week during the nightly news.

In addition, many state bar associations have lending libraries for legal professionals and educators.

Organization of LRE Activities

State bar associations organize their LRE activities in a variety of ways and in a variety of divisions and sections within the association.

Bar Foundations

Some state bar association work through their bar foundation, the charitable and educational arm of the association. Bar foundations are typically either involved in direct programming, or they support LRE by awarding grant monies to LRE efforts. Of the 43 state bars that responded to the 2001 ABA Division for Bar Services *Bar Activities Inventory* survey, 86 percent have bar foundations (or their equivalent), and of that number 26 percent engage in direct programming (which may include LRE) and around 40 percent award grants to LRE projects and programs.[6]

Some bar foundations house law-related education centers. One example is the Arizona Bar Foundation, which has been conducting LRE programs since 1980. The Arizona Bar Foundation Center for Law-Related Education provides a wide range of programs, materials, and technical assistance to Arizona teachers, students, school resource officers, lawyers, juvenile probation officers, and other LRE practitioners.

Another state LRE center that is funded by a state bar foundation is the Iowa Center for Law & Civic Education, which had previously operated for nearly 20 years at the Drake University Law School. The center's becoming a program of the state bar enabled the Iowa Center for Law & Civic Education to continue and expand its work in the field, and it provided the Iowa State Bar additional support with its existing projects.

State bar foundations are also involved in LRE by funding statewide and local LRE programs and projects. The Minnesota Bar Foundation provides grants to both community and bar programs and activities. One of their grant areas of concentration is LRE. Programs that have benefited from the foundation's grant program include the statewide high school mock trial program.

The Wyoming State Bar Foundation sponsors and funds a variety of LRE activities, including a statewide high school mock trial competition and an LRE curriculum development seminar for high school social studies teachers.

Young Lawyers

Young lawyers divisions and sections are another common home for LRE. Membership in young lawyers divisions and sections is generally open to recent law school graduates that have been admitted to the bar as well as lawyers under the age of 36.

The Iowa State Bar Young Lawyers Division coordinates an annual Know Your Constitution contest, which involves about 2,000 students each year.

The State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division sponsors committees that coordinate after-school activities for at-risk middle school students, sponsor the statewide high school mock trial competition, foster an understanding of the law and the criminal justice system in fifth graders, and host workshops for teachers.

In 2002–2003, the Tennessee Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division sponsored a number of public-service committees, including the Law Week Committee, Tennessee State High School Mock Trial Committee, and Youth Summit Committee.

The Texas Young Lawyers Association offers several award-winning curricula that it produced on topics such as rights and responsibilities, voting, and the jury system. The Washington State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division sponsors a pre-law leadership conference and a mock trial competition. The Arkansas Bar Association Young Lawyers Section conducts an elementary school reading tutoring program.

State Bar Association Committees

Regardless of where LRE efforts are housed organizationally, state bar association committees of lawyers, judges, educators, and others play a pivotal role in the planning and execution of LRE programs. Some state bars choose to have one committee oversee all of their LRE efforts; others establish a variety of committees, each focusing on a specific area or project. Committees provide a way for state bar associations to mobilize their members and make use of members' skills and highly specialized knowledge. For members, committees offer community service, networking, and leadership opportunities.

The State Bar of Montana's Law Education & Information Committee is comprised of roughly 20 members and organizes the state bar's public information and education efforts, including practical law and public information efforts, Law Day activities, a speakers bureau, and a collaborative mock Supreme Court hearing program for high school students.

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The New Hampshire Bar Association's Law-Related Education Program is organized by the Law-Related Education Advisory Board, a special committee of the state bar, comprised of lawyers, judges, teachers, and law enforcement personnel. It began in 1985 and currently serves over 50,000 New Hampshire students and teachers.

The State Bar of New Mexico's Public Legal Education Committee sponsors an annual high school essay contest to help students learn more about the legal system.

The North Carolina Bar Association's Citizenship Education Committee wrote and published a coloring book, "A Day with a Lawyer," that provides young children with a snapshot of the many services that lawyers perform and the many places in which lawyers work. The state bar's Centennial Public Education Committee created the "Rule of Law" video for middle school students. Using pop and hip-hop music, the video explains the wide variety of ways that lawyers serve the public and the breadth of specialties within the law.

The Rhode Island Bar Association's Committee on Public Relations is responsible for planning, organizing, and implementing Law Day programs in association with schools, courts, and community organizations.

The Utah State Bar's Law-Related Education and Law Day Committee sponsors an annual Judge for a Day Program. The program pairs high school students with sitting state judges for half of a working day. Students are given a rare opportunity to see the behind-the-scenes action of what it means to be a judge and learn firsthand how the justice system operates.

The West Virginia State Bar's Citizenship & Law-Related Education Committee conducts programs for teachers and students throughout the state, including teacher training sessions and youth summits. The committee is comprised of approximately 30 members.

The State Bar of Wisconsin's Law-Related Education Committee and the Wisconsin Supreme Court provide high school students the opportunity to tour the Wisconsin Supreme Court, observe oral arguments, and meet with actual justices to discuss legal issues.

For More Information

The best way to find out more about the LRE offerings of state bar associations is to contact the bar associations directly. The ABA Division for Bar Services maintains an online directory of state bar associations with addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and links to their respective Web sites. It is located at www.abanet.org/barserv/stlobar.html. Many state bar associations list their activities on their Web sites, so going online may be a good place to start. If you do not have access to the Web, contact the ABA directly, and a staff member will be happy to provide you with contact information.

The ABA Division for Bar Services publishes two reports that may be of interest to anyone looking to do further reading on state bar association involvement in LRE. The first is the annual *Best Projects* report, which provides descriptions of exemplary state and local bar association projects.

The second is the *Bar Activities Inventory*, a comprehensive guide to state and local bar associations. The inventory includes over 50,000 indexed facts—everything from organizational structure to programming. This is particularly helpful for anyone looking for statistical data.

For further information about these two publications, please contact the ABA Division for Bar Services at (312) 988-5343 or barservices@abanet.org.

1 *Essentials of Law-Related Education.* Chicago: American Bar Association Division for Public Education, 1995.

2 *1998 ABA Survey of State LRE Projects* was sponsored by Youth for Justice, a national program of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

3 The program and product descriptions provided in this publication were obtained through a 2001 ABA survey of state bar association and foundation youth LRE efforts and through state bar association and foundation Web sites and newsletters.

4 For more information about the National High School Mock Trial Championship, visit www.nationalmocktrial.org.

5 For more information about Conversations on Law & Liberty in Times of Crisis, visit www.abanet.org/publiced/amcon.

6 *2001 Bar Activities Inventory.* Chicago: American Bar Association Division for Bar Services, 2002.

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